CLEVELAND PUBLIC LIBRAR BUSINESS INF. BUR. CORPORATION FILE

MONTGOMERY WARD AMUND LEPOT :



RESULTS AT A GLANCE for the fiscal year ended

OPERATIONS

Net earnings

Additions to properties and equipment, including subsidiaries

FINANCIAL POSITION

Net investment in properties and equipment

SHAREHOLDERS' INTEREST

Investment per common share Dividends per common share

Evening shopping hours are attracting larger numbers of families to Wards' new stores, as at Northline Shopping Center, Houston, below.



February 1, **1961** February 3, 1960 \$1,248,993,866 \$1,222,596,263 15,053,599 30,656,537 20,619,205 27,010,180 39,746,106 36,073,835 \$ 490,938,606 \$ 541,005,545 111,738,927 104,691,071 640,218,052 645,696,616 48.42 48.85 1.07 2.28 1.50 2.00 WARDS



Chairman John A. Barr talks to shareholders and customers at preview of new

To Our Shareholders:

Net sales of \$1,248,993,866 for the 52-week fiscal year ended February 1, 1961, were the highest in the history of the Company and were 2.1 per cent higher than the sales of \$1,222,596,263 for the 53-week fiscal year ended February 3, 1960.

Net earnings of the Company were \$15,053,599, equal to \$1.07 per share of common stock. This compared with earnings of \$30,656,537 or \$2.28 per share the previous year.

Common stock dividends of \$19,208,327, equal to \$1.50 per share, were paid during the year. After paying two quarterly dividends at the rate of 50¢ per share, the Board of Directors, in the light of lower earnings, reduced the regular quarterly dividend payments to 25¢ per share. Dividends of \$7.00 per share, amounting to \$1,410,878, were paid on the Class "A" stock

The retail industry was adversely affected by a weak economy during the past year. Montgomery Ward's earnings declined more during 1960 than did those of many other national retailers because of Wards' relatively large number of older stores which are more susceptible to the competitive pressures of a recessionary economy. Sales from these older stores were five per cent lower in 1960 than in 1959.

Originally, and for the first fifty-four years of its existence, Montgomery Ward was exclusively a mail

order business with mostly rural customers. Beginning in 1926, the catalog business was supplemented by the establishment of a chain of retail stores located, for the most part, in small and medium sized cities and towns. During the fifteen years from 1941 to 1956 the Company pursued a policy of retrenchment. No new stores were opened during this period and maintenance of existing facilities was rigidly restricted.

In 1956, the Company embarked upon an active program of change and expansion. This program is designed to make Montgomery Ward fully and aggressively competitive and to broaden its market to the more dynamic metropolitan areas of the nation.

Of the 547 retail stores in operation at the beginning of 1960, 363 were more than 25 years old, 416 had an annual sales volume of less than \$1,500,000, and 415 were located in cities of less than 50,000 population.

During 1960, 21 new retail stores were opened. In contrast with the older stores, 18 of these new stores were in cities of over 50,000 population and their average projected annual sales volume is approximately \$6,000,000 per store. This is indicative of our plan to guide the Company's expansion toward the larger metropolitan markets with bigger stores which can better serve our customers.

During 1960, 39 of the older stores were closed. Of these, 7 were replaced by new and larger stores in better



Montgomery Ward store in Santa Ana, California.

locations and 21 were replaced with catalog stores. The Company had 529 retail stores at the end of 1960. About 30 of the older stores with poor performance records are being closed during 1961.

Present plans are to open 24 new retail stores in 1961, 7 of which will be relocations of older stores, 12 will be additional stores in metropolitan markets where the Company already has one or more stores, and 5 will be in communities where the Company has not previously had a store.

Fifty-nine new catalog stores were added during the year. The Company had 627 of these catalog units in operation at the year's end.

Two new distribution centers were opened in recent months, one in Baltimore, Maryland, and the other in Fort Worth, Texas. This brings to five the number of large distribution centers opened since the fall of 1958. The efficiency and economy of our distribution is further being improved by expansion of our system of private transportation. Ward trucks now serve the merchandise needs of 837 retail and catalog stores on a daily basis from our distribution centers and mail order houses. In 1960, we moved 335,000 tons of merchandise by private carriage, as compared with 188,000 tons in 1959 and 41,000 tons in 1958.

To improve the effectiveness of our expanding import program, and to realize the economies of direct buying, we have opened offices in Florence, Italy; Vienna, Austria; Copenhagen, Denmark; London, England; Tokyo, Japan; and have enlarged our office in Frankfurt, West Germany.

The program announced last year to improve the quality of our catalogs and to reduce printing costs by standardizing the page size of all catalogs and printing them on new high speed presses is now fully effective. The current general catalog in the new 8 by 11 inch size, first released in January 1961, is being well received by customers.

Credit sales during the year amounted to 39.7 per cent of total sales as compared with 37.2 per cent last year. Accounts receivable at the end of the year, including those sold to the Montgomery Ward Credit Corporation, totaled \$400,003,968, principally represented by 2,418,000 time payment accounts and 645,000 revolving charge accounts. Accounts receivable have increased \$210,278,367 during the past five years.

During the year, the Montgomery Ward Credit Corporation and two real estate subsidiaries, all fully owned by Montgomery Ward, were organized. The Credit Corporation purchased \$342,318,617 of accounts receivable from the parent company during the year. As of the end of the year, the Credit Corporation had \$50,000,000 of long term and \$74,618,762 of short term debt outstanding. In February of this year, the Credit Corporation sold an additional \$50,000,000 of long term debentures. The real estate subsidiaries owned 11 properties at the year end for the parent company's use and had outstanding debt of \$19,100,000.

The Company's capital needs are being adequately supplied by these subsidiaries.

On December 14, 1960, Meyer Kestnbaum, a Director of Montgomery Ward since April 1957, was fatally stricken by a sudden heart attack. We record his death with deep sorrow. As a Director and as a member of the Executive Committee, Mr. Kestnbaum gave unstintingly of his time and talents to the welfare of the Company.

The year 1961 has begun in a period of economic recession and the condition of business for the full year is difficult to predict. However, the Company's competitive potential is stronger today than at any time in the past decade, and we are confident that over the years ahead, as present programs for improvement and expansion become fully effective, the profitability of Montgomery Ward's operations will show significant improvement.

Respectfully submitted,

Chairman of the Board

April 18, 1961



Financial Statistics

Montgomery Ward has changed many of its policies in recent years and the charts on these pages illustrate the effects of the changes on the Company's sales trends.

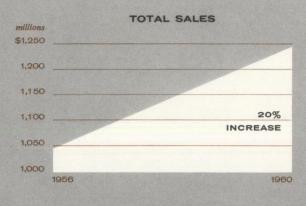
Net sales of \$1,248,993,866 established a new record high in the 1960 fiscal year of 52 weeks, surpassing the previous record set in 1959 when sales of \$1,222,596,263 for 53 weeks were recorded. In the past five years, sales have increased 20%.

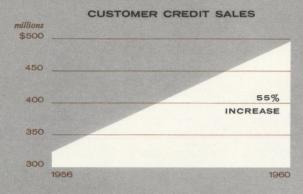
Wards more aggressive promotion of credit sales in recent years is reflected in the chart on this page showing the substantial increase that has taken place in credit sales during the last five years, from \$320,737,000 to \$496,468,000.

Retail and catalog stores accounted for 89% of the Company's total sales. Catalog orders received by mail directly from customers accounted for 11%. Of the total sales, one-third was attributable to catalog merchandising through stores and direct mailings, the same proportion that has existed for several years.

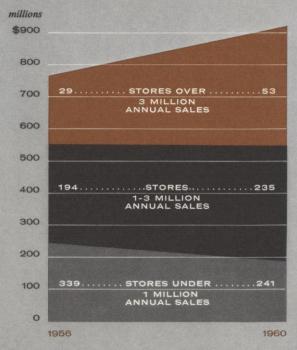
At the end of 1960, 529 Montgomery Ward retail stores were in operation as compared with 562 at the end of 1956. Total sales of these stores in 1960 were \$917,606,000 as compared with \$762,990,000 in 1956.

It is significant that Wards now is selling more merchandise through fewer stores.





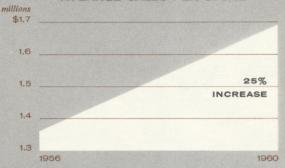
LARGE RETAIL STORES INCREASE SALES



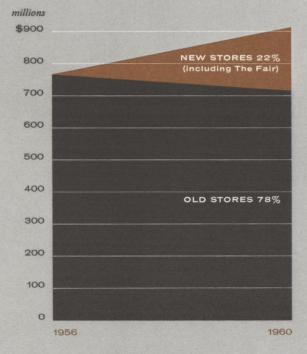
NEW RETAIL STORES







NEW RETAIL STORES INCREASE SALES





Since 1956, 39 new stores have been opened and the four Fair stores of Chicago were acquired. During these same years, 76 of the Company's older retail stores with poor performance records were closed.

An important result of this program is that average sales per retail store have increased 25% in this five year period.

The relative proportion of sales made by the new and the large stores is graphically portrayed in the two charts at the left. As the number of large stores has been increased, total sales have increased.

The 43 new stores opened or acquired during the past five years accounted for 22% of the total retail sales of Montgomery Ward in 1960. This percentage will increase as additional new stores are opened each year.

The Company is continuing to expand its catalog store operations. Twenty-one of those opened replaced retail stores closed during the past year and 49 were established in new areas; several catalog stores also were closed during the year, including five that were replaced by new retail stores. The number of catalog stores has been more than doubled, from 301 to 627, in the last five years. Through these stores, Wards is offering better service to more customers in more communities.



Wards also has been expanding its auto service facilities. It now provides full maintenance and repair services for its customers through 1,466 service stalls, an increase of 144% over the 601 stalls in service at the end of 1956.

Additions to the properties and equipment account amounted to \$39,746,106 during the year. This compares with total additions to properties and equipment of \$36,073,835 last year. Capital expenditures five years ago totaled only \$10,516,918.

Unexpended capital appropriations amounted to \$43,461,000 at the end of the year, compared with \$47,793,000 last year.

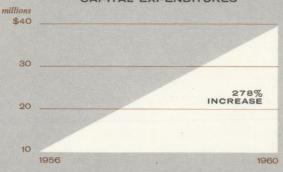
In 1960, accounts receivable, consisting principally of time payment accounts, increased 12% from \$356,590,631 to \$400,003,968. \$161,158,677 of these receivables were held by the Montgomery Ward Credit Corporation at the end of the year.

The changed composition of the asset accounts of the Company and its wholly owned subsidiaries since 1956 is shown in the chart at the right. Cash and securities were reduced 80% while accounts receivable increased 68%, fixed assets increased 253%, and inventories increased 8%. During this period, the value of other assets remained relatively constant at 3% of total assets.

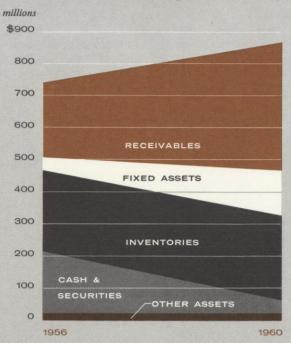




CAPITAL EXPENDITURES



CHANGE IN DISTRIBUTION OF ASSETS (including subsidiaries)



Montgomery Ward & Co., Incorporated

Consolidated Statements of Earnings and Earnings Reinvested

for the periods ended February 1, 1961 and February 3, 1960	1961 (52 Weeks)	1960 (53 Weeks)
EARNINGS		
NET SALES	\$1,248,993,866	\$1,222,596,263
COSTS AND EXPENSES:		
Cost of merchandise sold, including net buying, operating, selling and administrative expenses other than itemized herein	\$1,165,562,192	\$1,110,190,374
Property, social security and state taxes	21,932,236	18,671,667
Rents	16,836,768	15,362,830
Repairs and maintenance	5,396,392	5,130,565
Depreciation and amortization	8,317,153	6,429,527
Contribution to employees' retirement plan	3,596,045	3,379,763
Provision for Federal taxes on income	14,340,000	32,775,000
Total costs and expenses	\$1,235,980,786	\$1,191,939,726
NET EARNINGS FROM OPERATIONS	\$ 13,013,080	\$ 30,656,537
NET EARNINGS OF WHOLLY OWNED SUBSIDIARY COMPANIES	2,040,519	
NET EARNINGS	\$ 15,053,599	\$ 30,656,537
EARNINGS REINVESTED		
BALANCE AT BEGINNING OF YEAR	\$ 421,235,721	\$ 417,589,364
NET EARNINGS	15,053,599	30,656,537
Total	\$ 436,289,320	\$ 448,245,901
CASH DIVIDENDS:		
Class A stock—\$7.00 per share	\$ 1,410,878	\$ 1,410,878
Common stock—\$1.50 per share in fiscal 1960 and \$2.00 per share in fiscal 1959	19,208,327	25,599,302
Total	\$ 20,619,205	\$ 27,010,180
BALANCE AT END OF YEAR	\$ 415,670,115	\$ 421,235,721

Explanatory financial notes to this statement appear on page 11.

Montgomery Ward & Co., Incorporated

Consolidated Balance Sheet

as of February 1, 1961 and February 3, 1960	1961	1960
ASSETS		
Current Assets: Cash	\$ 28,994,493 27,770,255	\$ 25,939,924 7,616,154
Receivables, principally time payment accounts (including in 1961, \$18,601,751 equity in \$186,017,509 of receivables sold without recourse to Montgomery Ward Credit Corporation), less reserves for doubtful accounts and unearned carrying charge income of \$18,969,046 in 1961 and \$19,183,631 in 1960 Merchandise inventories, at the lower of cost or market Prepaid catalog costs, supplies, etc. Total current assets	241,848,794 266,784,895 25,337,319 \$590,735,756	356,590,631 260,218,266 23,385,875 \$673,750,850
NET EQUITY OF WHOLLY OWNED SUBSIDIARIES (See accompanying balance sheets)	\$ 37,540,519	<u>s</u> —
PROPERTIES AND EQUIPMENT, at cost: 1961 1960 Land	\$ 12,194,799	\$ 14,086,300
Total buildings, fixtures and equipment . \$155,147,926 \$141,405,817 Less—Reserves for depreciation	90,053,935 9,490,193 \$111,738,927 \$740,015,202	81,922,445 8,682,326 \$104,691,071 \$778,441,921
LIABILITIES		
CURRENT LIABILITIES: Notes payable to banks Accounts payable and other liabilities Accrued expenses Federal taxes on income Total current liabilities	\$ — 59,042,768 28,990,697 11,763,685 \$ 99,797,150	\$ 28,000,000 52,312,055 29,012,517 23,420,733 \$132,745,305
CAPITAL STOCK AND EARNINGS REINVESTED: Class A stock, no par value— Authorized 205,000 shares noncallable, \$7.00 per share cumulative dividends; issued 201,554 shares, stated at liquidating value	\$ 20,155,400	\$ 20,155,400
Common stock, no par value— Authorized 20,000,000 shares; issued 13,004,756 shares, at stated value		
and 201,350 shares in 1960, at cost 6,838,848 6,925,890 Total capital stock and earnings reinvested	620,062,652 \$640,218,052 \$740,015,202	625,541,216 \$645,696,616 \$778,441,921

Explanatory financial notes to this statement appear on page 11.

Montgomery Ward Credit Corporation

Balance Sheet as of February 1, 1961	1961
ASSETS	
Customers' deferred payment accounts purchased without recourse from Montgomery Ward & Co., Incorporated \$186,017,509	\$ 1,086,367
Less portion of purchase price withheld pending collection (including allowance of \$1,860,175 for estimated uncollectible accounts). 18,601,751	167,415,758
Prepaid interest on notes payable	216,367
Total current assets	\$168,718,492
DEBENTURE DISCOUNT AND EXPENSE, after amortization	962,085
ORGANIZATION EXPENSE, after amortization	26,160
OTHER ASSETS	13,117 \$169,719,854
LIABILITIES	
CURRENT LIABILITIES:	
Notes payable	\$ 74,618,762 393,109 1,410,000
Total current liabilities	\$ 76,421,871
LONG TERM DEBT:	
4%% Debentures, due July 1, 1980	50,000,000
UNEARNED DISCOUNT ON DEFERRED PAYMENT ACCOUNTS	6,257,081
INVESTMENT OF MONTGOMERY WARD & CO., INCORPORATED: Common stock, \$100 par value—	
Authorized 500,000 shares; issued and outstanding 250,000 shares \$25,000,000 Capital in excess of par value	
Net income for the period from April 4, 1960 (the date the Credit Corporation began operations) to February 1, 1961	37,040,902 \$169,719,854

Explanatory financial notes to this statement appear on page 11.

M-W Properties Corporation

Balance Sheet as of February 1, 1961	1961
ASSETS	
CURRENT ASSETS:	
Cash	\$ 55,823
Marketable securities, short term, at cost	\$ 605,689
Total current assets	\$ 005,005
PROPERTIES (Leased to Montgomery Ward & Co., Incorporated) at cost: Land	\$ 2,262,647
Buildings, less reserves for depreciation of \$217,656	16,478,588
Total properties	\$18,741,235
FINANCING EXPENSE, after amortization	\$ 75,088
LIABILITIES	\$19,422,012
CURRENT LIABILITIES:	
Accrued expense	\$ 66,283
Federal taxes on income	1,700
Principal payments of 51/4% secured notes due within one year	271,000 \$ 338,983
Total current liabilities	\$ 550,705
54% SECURED NOTES, due serially to February 1, 1991, less principal payments of \$271,000 due within one year	18,829,000
INVESTMENT OF MONTGOMERY WARD & CO., INCORPORATED:	
Common stock, \$100 par value— Authorized 25,000 shares; issued and outstanding 2,500 shares \$250,000	
Net income for the period February 15, 1960 (the date of incorporation)	
to February 1, 1961	254,029
	\$19,422,012
Montgomery Ward Realty Corporation	
Balance Sheet as of February 1, 1961	1961
ASSETS	
CURRENT ASSETS:	\$ 25,055
Cash	224,945
Total current assets	\$ 250,000
PROPERTIES—Land, at cost	3,001,380
LIABILITIES	\$ 3,251,380
CURRENT LIABILITIES:	
Account payable to Montgomery Ward & Co., Incorporated	\$ 3,000,974
Accrued expense	4,818
Total current liabilities	\$ 3,005,792
INVESTMENT OF MONTGOMERY WARD & CO., INCORPORATED: Common stock, \$100 par value—	
Authorized 25,000 shares; issued and outstanding 2,500 shares \$250,000	
Net loss for the period January 23, 1961 (the date of incorporation) to	
February 1, 1961	245,588
	\$ 3,251,380

Notes to Financial Statements

MONTGOMERY WARD & CO., INCORPORATED

- 1. On February 3, 1961, the Company made an additional capital contribution of \$15,000,000 to the Montgomery Ward Credit Corporation.
- 2. Under a retirement pension plan established by the Company and its subsidiaries, there was an estimated unfunded past-service liability of approximately \$35,000,000 as of February 1, 1961. Provision was made during the fifty-two week period ended February 1, 1961, for interest on past-service liability and full funding of current-service liability.
- 3. On February 1, 1961, the Company had reserved, under a restricted stock option plan, 390,560 shares of its authorized but unissued common stock for issuance to officers and key employees. Under the terms of the plan the Company may elect to issue reacquired stock in lieu of authorized but unissued common stock. The option price is the closing price of the stock on the New York Stock Exchange on the day the option is granted. Options granted are exercisable in ten equal amounts
- over a ten-year period on a cumulative basis commencing one year from date of grant. During the fifty-two week period ended February 1, 1961, 2,290 shares of treasury stock were issued for options exercised. On February 1, 1961, 189 individuals held options for 352,610 shares at prices ranging from \$26% to \$47% per share, of which options for 95,920 shares were exercisable.
- 4. The Company had 667 leases in effect at February 1, 1961 having terms of more than three years after that date. These leases provided for present aggregate minimum annual rentals of approximately \$11,373,000 (of which \$1,337,000 is payable to M-W Properties Corporation) plus, in certain instances, real estate taxes and other expenses. Additional amounts based upon percentage of sales may become due on 25% of these leases. The Company has no obligations under any of these leases beyond the year 1991 except for ground leases of one store which extend through the year 2020.

MONTGOMERY WARD CREDIT CORPORATION

- 1. Under the Indenture relating to the 4% Debentures due July 1, 1980, the Credit Corporation may not pay or declare dividends on its common stock or acquire any of its common stock if, after giving effect to such transactions, current assets are not at least equal to 120% of total liabilities, exclusive of amounts withheld in connection with the purchase of deferred payment contracts and indebtedness subordinated to such debentures.
- 2. On February 3, 1961, Montgomery Ward & Co., Incorporated made an additional capital contribution of \$15,000,000 which was added to capital in excess of par value.
- 3. On February 7, 1961, the Credit Corporation sold \$25,000,000 434% Debentures, due February 1, 1981 and \$25,000,000 514% Subordinated Debentures, due February 1, 1981 for net proceeds in the amount of approximately \$49,375,000.

Auditors' Opinion

To the Shareholders and Board of Directors, Montgomery Ward & Co., Incorporated:

We have examined the consolidated balance sheet of Montgomery Ward & Co., Incorporated (an Illinois corporation) and subsidiaries as of February 1, 1961, and the related consolidated statements of earnings and earnings reinvested for the 52-week period then ended. We have also examined the balance sheets of Montgomery Ward Credit Corporation, Montgomery Ward Realty Corporation, and M-W Properties Corporation (all Delaware corporations incorporated during fiscal year 1960) as of February 1, 1961. Our examinations were made in accordance with generally accepted auditing

standards, and accordingly included such tests of the accounting records and such other auditing procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements referred to above present fairly the financial position of the companies as of February 1, 1961, and the consolidated results of their operations for the 52-week period then ended, and were prepared in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles applied on a basis consistent with that of the preceding year.

arthur andersen + Co.

Chicago, Illinois, March 24, 1961



DIRECTORS

John A. Barr Chairman of the Board

Philip R. Clarke Chairman, Executive Committee

Russell P. Bygel
Harry P. Davison
Percy B. Eckhart
Paul M. Hammaker
Charles J. Kushell, Jr.
Lenox R. Lohr
Ernest S. Marsh
Robert L. Milligan
Solomon A. Smith

OFFICERS

John A. Barr, Chairman Paul M. Hammaker, President Charles J. Kushell, Jr., Financial Vice President Edmund P. Platt, Executive Vice President, Regional Operations Charles W. Wood, Vice President, Merchandising Harold F. Dysart, Vice President and Controller Thomas M. Green, Vice President, Planning and Development Anthony D. Eastman, Vice President, Personnel Russell P. Bygel, Vice President Julius P. Hansen, Vice President Lester O. Naylor, Vice President Andrew Lamb, Treasurer Charles J. Barnhill, Secretary John M. Clark, Assistant Treasurer David L. Dickson, Assistant Secretary Harold W. Bancroft, Assistant Secretary

TRANSFER AGENTS

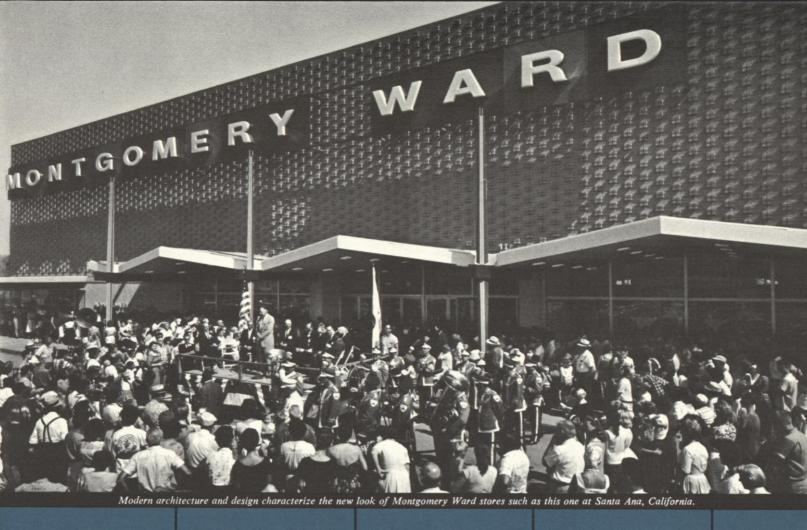
The Northern Trust Company, Chicago, Ill. Morgan Guaranty Trust Company of New York, New York, N.Y.

REGISTRARS

The First National Bank of Chicago, Chicago, Ill. Bankers Trust Company, New York, N.Y.

Five-Year Statistical Summary

for fiscal years ended OPERATIONS	February 1, 1961
Net Sales	\$1,248,993,866 14,340,000 15,053,599 20,619,205
ings of previous years	(5,565,606) 39,746,106 8,317,153
Average Number of Employees	67,258
FINANCIAL POSITION	
Cash and Securities	\$ 56,764,748 241,848,794 266,784,895 111,738,927 37,540,519
SHAREHOLDERS' INTEREST	
Investment per Common Share	\$ 48.42 1.07 1.50
Shares Outstanding Class "A"	201,554 12,805,696 107,609



February 3,	January 28,	January 31,	January 31,
1960	1959	1958	1957
\$1,222,596,263	\$1,092,267,472	\$1,073,799,422	\$1,045,767,458
32,775,000	28,800,000	30,660,000	38,190,000
30,656,537 27,010,180	28,030,510 27,011,140	29,696,757	35,844,479
27,010,100	27,011,140	30,507,029	30,671,579
3,646,357	1,019,370	(810,272)	5,172,900
36,073,835	27,271,255	20,476,338	10,516,918
6,429,527	5,334,929	4,517,949	3,588,874
63,153	58,152	59,714	57,691
\$ 33,556,078	\$ 94,730,001	\$ 148,895,965	\$ 198,191,231
356,590,631	305,325,253	277,179,867	237,915,314
260,218,266	242,026,480	227,432,485	247,094,113
104,691,071	75,225,195 —	53,578,754	37,792,614
\$ 48.85	\$ 48.57	\$ 48.49	\$ 48.34
2.28	2.08	2.19	2.65
2.00	2.00	2.25	2.25
201,554	201.554	201.554	201.554
12,803,406	12,796,256	12,808,556	13,004,756
106,006	99,956	92,127	84,605

